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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE

Borough of Barnstaple

FOR THE YEAR 1966

BOROUGH OF BARNSTAPLE

Telephone :
BARNSTAPLE 2591

Public Health Department,
The Castle,
BARNSTAPLE.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1966

E. WILLIAMS,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

W. RODGERS,
M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.



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REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To : His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors
of the Borough of Barnstaple.

Mr. Mayor, Madam & Gentlemen,

I wish to present the Annual Report on the Health
and Sanitary Administration of the Borough for the Year 1966.

Yours faithfully,

E. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1967.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

YEAR 1966/67

His Worship the Mayor : Alderman W. H. Wilkey, J.P.

Chairman : Alderman G. Casey

Aldermen : F. A. Dunning

F. A. H. Lolland, J.P.

Councillors : J. Bartlett

W. J. Bond

R. G. Chugg

A. C. Dibble

D. G. Potter

J. H. Rayner, C.C.

E. J. Wright

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S T A F F

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The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of :-

Part-time Officer -

E. WILLIAMS, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

Whole-time Officers -

W. RODGERS, M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector

F. V. PYE, M.A.P.H.I.,
Additional Public Health Inspector

MISS E. M. FENNELL Clerk

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH -

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,396
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)							16,320
" at 1961 Census	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,944
Number of Inhabited Houses (as at 1.4.1967)						...	5,212
Number of Corporation Houses (as at 31.12.1966)						..	1,325
Density of Persons per House	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.13
Extracts from Vital Statistics -							
Births : Area Comparability Factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.05
Deaths : " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.76

VITAL STATISTICS -

Live Births -

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	307
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.71
Rate per 1,000 population, adjusted by Comp. Factor							19.6
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births							7.49

Stillbirths -

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Rate per 1,000 Total Live & Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.16
Total Live & Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	313
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Infant Mortality Rates -							
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births							22.8
Legit. " " " " Legit. " "							21.12
Illegit. " " " " Illegit. " "							43.40

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per)							
1,000 Total Live Births)							9.7

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week							
per 1,000 Total Live Births)							9.7

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths, and Deaths under							
1 week combined, per 1,000							
Total Live & Still Births)							28.7

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion) -

Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 Total Live & Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	269
Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.35
" " " " " " adjusted by Comp. Factor							7.86

POPULATION, BIRTHS & DEATHS TABLE FOR THE BOROUGH SINCE 1948 -

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u> (Regist.Gen.Estimate)	<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
1948	16,000	317	242
1949	15,940	287	227
1950	16,060	230	217
1951 (Census)	16,299	263	241
1952	16,130	266	198
1953	16,090	261	314
1954	16,080	246	227
1955	15,930	239	227
1956	15,790	233	220
1957	15,750	255	227
1958	15,660	244	223
1959	15,520	281	214
1960	15,550	261	233
1961 (Census)	15,944	280	284
1962	15,650	289	228
1963	15,890	324	235
1964	16,280	328	252
1965	16,330	295	269
1966	16,320	307	269

BIRTHS -

During the year there were 307 live births, which was 12 more than occurred during the year 1965.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Live Births -</u>			
Legitimate ...	133	151	284
Illegitimate ...	17	6	23
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	156	157	307
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The number of home confinements was 16, which is only 5.2% of the total live births.

<u>North Devon</u> <u>Infirmary</u>	<u>Highfield</u> <u>Maternity Home</u>	<u>At Home</u>	<u>Bicclescombe</u> <u>Hospital,</u> <u>Ilfracombe</u>
75	194	16	3
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population 18.71			
" " " " " " adjusted by Comp. Factor 19.64			
Birth Rate for England & Wales 17.7			

The Birth Rate (adjusted) for previous years and for 1966 is as follows :-

1948	... 19.8	1954	... 15.90	1960	... 17.28
1949	... 18.0	1955	... 15.60	1961	... 18.58
1950	... 14.32	1956	... 15.34	1962	... 19.01
1951	... 16.15	1957	... 16.67	1963	... 21.41
1952	... 16.32	1958	... 16.04	1964	... 21.15
1953	... 16.05	1959	... 18.64	1965	... 18.96
				1966	... 19.64

Still Births -

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 0.36	
" " " " " Total Live & Still Births 19.16	

DEATHS -

The total number of deaths of Borough residents during the year was 269 : exactly the same total number as in 1965.

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
116	153	269

Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	10.35
" " " " " adjusted by Comp. Factor					7.86
" " " " " for England & Wales				...	11.7

The Death Rate (adjusted) for previous years and for 1966 is as follows :-

1950	...	10.8	1956	...	12.25	1962	...	11.79
1951	...	11.81	1957	...	12.68	1963	...	12.41
1952	...	9.65	1958	...	12.24	1964	...	12.99
1953	...	15.41	1959	...	11.29	1965	...	12.84
1954	...	11.42	1960	...	12.43	1966	...	7.86
1955	...	11.54	1961	...	15.36			

The following table shows the Causes of Death :-

			<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	...		-	-	-
" - Other	...	...	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	...	...	-	-	-
Diphtheria	...	...	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	...	...	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-	-
Measles	...	...	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases			-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	...		5	2	7
" " - Lung, Bronchus			8	2	10
" " - Breast	...		-	6	6
" " - Uterus	...		-	3	3
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms			11	9	20
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	1	1	2
Diabetes	...	...	1	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System			13	27	40
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	23	11	34
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...		-	6	6
Other Heart Disease	...	...	21	43	64
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	4	4	8
Influenza	...	...	3	2	5

(continued on Page 8 :-

<u>Causes of Death (cont'd. from P.7)</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pneumonia	5	11	16
Bronchitis	3	4	7
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	1	1	2
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea ...	1	2	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	2	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	1	-	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	6	8	14
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3
All Other Accidents	2	4	6
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and Operations of War ...	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL</u> ...	<u>116</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>269</u>

Deaths occurred in the following age-groups :-

Under 1 year ... 7	45 - 54 years ... 20
1 - 4 years ... -	55 - 64 " ... 28
5 - 14 " ... 1	65 - 74 " ... 53
15 - 24 " ... 4	75 - 84 " ... 91
25 - 34 " ... 2	85 - 94 " ... 54
35 - 44 " ... 4	95 + " ... 5

Neonatal Deaths -

This represents the number of deaths occurring in infants under the age of 4 weeks :-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate ...	-	2	2
Illegitimate ...	1	-	1

Neonatal Death Rate per 1,000 Total Live Births ... 9.7

Infant Mortality Rate -

During the year, 7 infants died under the age of 1 year, viz :-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate ...	2	4	6
Illegitimate ...	1	-	1

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Live Births ... 22.8

Causes of infant deaths were as follows :-

M. 13 hours	:	Heart failure; congenital heart disease; multiple congenital defects.
F. 1 day	:	Respiratory distress; prematurity.
F. 6 days	:	Inhalation of vomit; prematurity.
F. 6 weeks	:	Idiopathic cardio-megaly.
F. 2 months	:	Broncho-pneumonia.
M. 5 months	:	Acute Bronchiolitis.
M. 9 months	:	Gastro Enteritis.

Maternal Mortality - NIL.

Cancer Deaths -

There were 46 deaths from Cancer during the year : 6 fewer than in 1965.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Stomach ...	5	2	7
Lungs & Bronchus ...	8	2	10
Breast ...	-	6	6
Uterus ...	-	3	3
Other ...	11	9	20
	<u>24</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>46</u>
	<u>==</u>	<u>==</u>	<u>==</u>

Cancer of the Lung & Bronchus -

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Year 1950	3	-	3	<u>Year</u> 1959	4	1	5
1951	2	-	2	1960	13	2	15
1952	2	-	2	1961	9	1	10
1953	3	3	6	1962	7	3	10
1954	5	1	6	1963	6	1	7
1955	5	-	5	1964	5	1	6
1956	8	-	8	1965	10	1	11
1957	6	1	7	1966	8	2	10
1958	9	-	9				

Cancer of the lung in Males decreased from 10 in 1965 to 8 in 1966, and in females the number increased from 1 to 2.

The total number of Cancer deaths, and the percentage of Cancer deaths to Total Deaths, since 1950, are shown in the following table :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total No. of Deaths</u>	<u>Cancer Deaths</u>			<u>Percentage of Cancer Deaths to Total Deaths</u>
		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	
1950	217	15	11	26	11.9%
1951	241	14	12	26	10.7%
1952	198	9	17	26	13.1%
1953	314	22	27	49	15.6%
1954	227	15	23	38	16.7%
1955	227	15	15	30	13.2%
1956	220	23	17	40	18.1%
1957	227	18	11	29	12.7%
1958	223	24	27	51	22.8%
1959	214	17	18	35	16.3%
1960	233	24	20	44	18.8%
1961	284	26	19	45	15.8%
1962	228	18	27	45	19.7%
1963	235	23	12	35	14.8%
1964	252	16	20	36	14.2%
1965	269	24	28	52	19.3%
1966	269	24	22	46	17.1%

INFECTIOUS DISEASES -

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during 1966, arranged in age-groups :-

AGE GROUPS	Measles	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis		Whooping Cough
				Pulm.	Non- Pulm.	
Under 1 year	16	-	-	-	-	1
1 +	27	-	-	-	-	-
2 +	34	-	-	-	-	1
3 +	33	-	-	-	-	1
4 +	37	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	93	-	3	-	-	3
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	1	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	1	9	-	1	1	-
65 and over	-	4	-	1	-	-
Age unknown	7	-	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL</u> ...	249	13	3	2 *	1 **	6

* Tuberculosis - Pulmonary : M. 54.

M. 65 : transferred to Hawkmoor
Chest Hospital, Bovey Tracey.

** Tuberculosis - Non-Pulm : F. 64 : Cervical gland, neck.

There were no cases of Poliomyelitis in the Borough, and no cases of Diphtheria, the last case of this latter disease occurring 21 years ago.

There were also no official notifications of Food Poisoning during the year.

There were 2 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 1 case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified.

INCIDENCE OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS SINCE 1946

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Cases of Pulm. T.B.</u>	<u>Case Rate per 1,000 Population</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>	<u>Death Rate per 1,000 Population</u>
1946	15	0.94	13	0.82
1947	9	0.56	6	0.37
1948	11	0.68	6	0.37
1949	5	0.31	3	0.18
1950	9	0.56	2	0.12
1951	18	1.11	7	0.43
1952	12	0.74	3	0.18
1953	8	0.49	2	0.12
1954	4	0.24	Nil	Nil
1955	5	0.31	1	0.06
1956	12	0.76	Nil	Nil
1957	6	0.37	Nil	Nil
1958	11	0.76	1	0.06
1959	13	0.83	1	0.06
1960	8	0.51	1	0.06
1961	3	0.19	1	0.06
1962	3	0.19	Nil	Nil
1963	6	0.37	1	0.06
1964	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1965	1	0.06	Nil	Nil
1966	2	0.12	Nil	Nil

The following table shows the number of cases on the Borough Tuberculosis Register at the beginning and the end of the year 1966 :-

1966	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			TOTAL
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	
1st January	68	32	100	10	11	21	121
31st December	70	31	101	10	11	21	122

THE MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT now visits the Borough every fortnight : on alternate Thursdays between the hours of 9.30 and 11.30 a.m. It is situate in the Cattle Market (Tuly Street entrance), and is available to the general public (except children under 15 years of age, and expectant mothers), and is also available for cases referred by General Practitioners in the area, thus releasing the X-Ray Department at the North Devon Infirmary to cope with other important X-ray work.

HOUSING --

During the year, 60 dwellings were completed by the Corporation, viz. 6 houses and 32 flats at Magdalene Lawn, Vicarage Street, and 22 houses at Frankmarsh.

6 houses were demolished, and 3 houses closed in 1966.

The number of dwellings built by Private Enterprise during the year was 18.

WATER SUPPLIES -

The water supply to the Borough has again been adequate in quantity and satisfactory in quality throughout the year.

The water is supplied by the North Devon Water Board. The water intake is from two sources : one from the River Yeo at a point some 5 miles from the town; this water gravitates to the Treatment Works at Pilton, where it is first filtered through sand filter-beds, and then chlorinated. The other source of supply is from the Water Board's reservoir at Wistland-pound. This is also treated by filtration and chlorination.

During the year, 85 bacteriological samples were submitted for examination. 84 were satisfactory.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT -

I am obliged to the Barnstaple Meteorological Station at the North Devon Athenaeum for the following information regarding local weather statistics :-

<u>Barometer</u>	:	Highest reading	:	30.9 inches on 19th March, 190
	:	Lowest	:	28.8 " " 21st Febr., "
<u>Temperature</u>	:	Maximum	:	76° on 10th June, "
	:	Minimum	:	22° on 15th March, "
	:	Mean for the Year	:	49°F.
<u>Rainfall</u>	:	38.43 inches.		
	:	Average for preceding 10 years : 34.9 inches.		
	:	Number of days on which .01 or more inches of rain fell : 192.		

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION -

Protective immunization and vaccination against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Smallpox and Poliomyelitis are undertaken by the General Practitioners, and at the Infant Welfare and School Clinics. There are 3 Infant Welfare Clinics in Barnstaple : these are held at Alexandra Road Clinic weekly, and at Sticklepath and Forches Clinics fortnightly.

'MEALS ON WHEELS' -

This service is still run by the W.V.S. The meals are now prepared in the kitchen of the Adult Training Centre at Hawley, and the number of meals distributed to the elderly is about 50 per week.

CARE OF THE AGED -

Where possible, elderly people who are living alone are given every assistance to enable them to remain as long as possible in their own homes. They are visited by Health Visitors, and, in cases of ill-health, by the District Nurses. The W.V.S. also visit the elderly and assist by doing their shopping, etc.

Two "Darby & Joan Clubs" exist in the town, one in the Pilton district, and one at Newport. Both these Clubs are run by the W.V.S.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Sec. 47, and AMENDMENT ACT, 1951 -

This Section deals with the compulsory removal of elderly persons from their own homes to a County Welfare Home. No cases were dealt with under this Section during the year.

MATERNITY CASES -

At the North Devon Infirmary there is a Ward of 14 beds for maternity cases, with a fully-qualified staff available for cases of doubt or difficulty.

A General Practitioners' Maternity Unit of 13 beds is situated at "Highfield Maternity Home" Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

At Bicklecombe Hospital, Ilfracombe, there are 10 beds for maternity and ante-natal patients, and during the year 3 Barnstaple births took place at this Hospital.

There are also 4 beds for maternity cases at Branton Nursing Home, but no local births occurred there in 1966. (2 Barnstaple births occurred in private homes in Branton during the year.)

ISOLATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES -

There is an Infectious Diseases section at the Kingsley Hospital, Bideford, which serves Barnstaple as well as other Local Authorities in North Devon.

SMALLPOX -

During the year, the Hospital previously available for the reception of any Smallpox cases in the area, viz. the Upton Pyne Hospital, near Exeter, was closed. Arrangements have now been made that LISKEARD Smallpox Hospital will be the "first-line" reception hospital for any Smallpox cases from the Counties of Devon and Cornwall, with LEE MILL Hospital as "second-line" hospital.

The Plymouth Ambulance now provides transport for Smallpox cases in Devon or Cornwall. The telephone number is Plymouth (OPL.2)64101.

GENERAL -

The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, serves the area, and provides modern medical and surgical treatment for the residents of the District. There are 113 beds.

Two Wards, with a total of 33 beds, at the Alexandra Hospital, Barnstaple, are set aside as an Annexe to the North Devon Infirmary, and post-operative and recovery patients are transferred there as soon as possible.

There are 100 beds for the chronic sick at the Alexandra Hospital.

LABORATORY -

The Public Health Laboratory, of which Dr. B. Moore is the Director, is situated at Church Lane, Heavitree, Exeter. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all Doctors.

Bacteriological examinations of drinking water and milk are also carried out there.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and technical staff to meet the needs of the whole of North Devon.

The Blood Bank is also situated at this local Laboratory.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES -

V. D. Clinic : This is held at The North Devon Infirmary, Glossop Annexe :-

Sessions

<u>MALES</u>	(Mondays, 5.15 p.m.	<u>FEMALES</u>	(Mondays, 4.00 p.m.
	(Thursdays, 5.45 p.m.		(Thursdays, 4.30 p.m.

Chest Clinic : held at The North Devon Infirmary, Glossop Annexe
Sessions

Tuesdays, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. : Clinic & X-ray Examinations.

Infant Welfare Clinics : There are now three Infant Welfare Clinics in Barnstaple. These are held on the following days :-

Alexandra Road Clinic -

Every Tuesday afternoon : 2 - 4 p.m.,
Every Thursday afternoon : 2 - 4 p.m.

St. Paul's Church Hall Clinic, Sticklepath -

2nd & 4th Friday of each month : 2 - 4 p.m.

Forches Estate Clinic (Borough Arms Hotel) -

1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month : 2 - 4 p.m.

Dental Clinic : held at the Alexandra Road Clinic daily, for expectant mothers, school children, and children under 5 years.

Eye Clinic : held at the Alexandra Road Clinic every 2nd Friday of each month, for school children, and children under 5 years.

Ante-natal Clinic : at Alexandra Road Clinic, held by the District Nurses and Health Visitors, every Monday afternoon. The Physiotherapist from the Hospital is also in attendance.

Family Planning Clinic : This Clinic is run by the Exeter and District Women's Welfare Association, and is held on the 1st Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 113 Boutport Street, Barnstaple. A lady doctor is in attendance.

A Birth Control Clinic is held every 3rd Tuesday of the month, between 5.30 and 8.30 p.m. at the same Centre. Visits by appointment only.

Hearing Clinic : This is held at the Alexandra Road Clinic on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, between 9.30 a.m. and 12 noon, for school-children and children under 5 years.

A Specialist Hearing Clinic is held at the North Devon Infirmary on the 4th Wednesday of the month, between 2 and 4 p.m., for school-children and children under 5 years.

Minor Ailments Clinic : held each Friday morning, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon, at the Alexandra Road Clinic.

Speech Therapy Clinic : held each Wednesday at the Alexandra Road Clinic.

Chiropody Service : This service operates at the Alexandra Road Clinic every Wednesday and Friday. The W.V.S. arrange the rotas, and assist the Chiropodists generally. The charge is 2/6d., but the service is free for Old Age Pensioners receiving National Assistance, also to expectant mothers.

AMBULANCE SERVICES -

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon County Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. The Brigade serves the Borough and the district around, and the Headquarters are in Commercial Road, Barnstaple. The staff consists of four paid members (full-time), 20 men volunteers, and 14 volunteer nurses.

The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available upon application to the Hospital by the Doctor concerned, and the Ambulance Service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when the Ambulance is not necessary.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME -

There are 5 District Nurse/Midwives practising
in the Borough.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To : His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors
of the Borough of Barnstaple.

Mr. Mayor, Madam & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my 16th Annual Report on the work done by the Public Health Inspectors during the past year, a year in which, once again, there were no changes in, nor increase in, personnel, and no sensational happenings.

The event which gave most pleasure to the Department, and to many people, was the long-overdue cessation of Sunday slaughtering at the Public Abattoir. This happy state of affairs came about in October, after some 12 years of regular usage, by the fortuitous withdrawal of grading on Sundays. Thus was brought to an end a thing which nobody seemed to want, but which was believed to be essential to the welfare of the town and district. It is unwept, unhonoured, and, save for this requiem, unsung. Even so, the Abattoir of 100 years, which is about to die every year, but which is surely now very near dissolution, continued to provide most scope for the staff. There was an increase of about 1,100 animals slaughtered and inspected (the two terms are synonymous, and have been for many years), and its operations require attendance still on 6 days each week. There is ample reason to forecast that the present structure will not feature in more than two such Reports hereafter.

No statutory notices were served during the year to bring about required works of repair or abatement of nuisance. (One such was authorised, but the necessary works were done before its service.) This is a rare and happy state of affairs, perhaps explained by two main reasons: that the Borough has such a large proportion of owner-occupied dwelling houses whose owner-occupiers, naturally, keep them in good order; and that the immense Slum Clearance programme of the last decade has removed, by demolition, those houses where defects were many.

It is gratifying to see so many older houses improved by their owners; surprising to see how much of this is done without the aid of Grants which can be had for the purpose.

It is, again, a pleasure to report that the service of refuse collection and disposal went smoothly throughout the year. Considering that about 5,000 houses and trade premises are visited weekly, it is wonderful to know how few complaints are ever received of missed collections or unsatisfactory service, and it is especially pleasurable to refer to the extra effort made every Bank Holiday week-end. During the year, one small scheme of paper-sack refuse collection was put into operation at a block of Council-owned properties, and proved successful in every way, sufficient to show that, were it not a costly switch from the present bin system, this would be the recommended system of storage and collection.

Refuse disposal by controlled tipping continued for the 13th year at Seven Brethren's Bank, where, it is estimated space for a further 8 - 10 years of such tipping remains. None of our new industrial neighbours on the site seem to have cause for complaint at their nearness to refuse disposal operations; how much less, then, any householders of the Borough.

Considerable progress was made with inspections of commercial premises under the Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act. Such contraventions as were found were few and trifling, and all remedied after informal notice given.

Visits made to food premises confirmed that the general standard in the Borough continues to be very good. The very large quantity of canned and other foods surrendered as unfit need not alarm: Supermarkets carry enormous stocks, their large freezing-cabinets can break down, causing almost complete loss of contents, and, furthermore, there are at least two large Wholesale Depots which supply chains of shops in many parts of the County. Despite the forbidding amount of 4 tons in weight of food surrendered, it is but a fraction of what is handled, and a fairly large proportion of it is unmarketable, but not necessarily unfit.

Frequent visits to the only residential Caravan Site in the Borough revealed only very satisfactory conditions of site, toilets, and the 20 vans stationed there. It is indicative of the much-improved standard of living we have come to expect that this site has changed so much for the better in recent years, because at one time it was a constant source of annoyance and complaint.

I would like, again, to say how grateful I am to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, indeed to all Members of the Council, for their courtesy and attention; also to thank all other Officials and Departments for ready co-operation at all times. To my colleagues of the Public Health Department I repeat my yearly thanks for doing so much, so cheerfully and ably.

Your obedient servant,

W. RODGERS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

(1) MEAT INSPECTION -

Animals slaughtered and inspected were as follows :-

Beasts	...	2,265
Calves	...	241
Sheep	...	30,437
Pigs	...	10,157
		<u>43,100</u>

Meat condemned as unfit for human consumption :-

37 tons 0 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lbs.

Whole carcasses condemned include the following :-

Beasts	...	65
Calves	...	60
Sheep	...	680
Pigs	...	26
		<u>831</u>

Incidence of Tuberculosis in Cows was Nil, against 0.2% in 1965.

Examinations for *Cysticercus Bovis* (the embryo form of a tapeworm infesting man) continued, and 8 cases were found, a decrease of 3 on the previous year. The incidence of infection was .42% against .56% in 1965.

There is no other Slaughterhouse licensed in the Borough.

8 Licences were issued to Slaughtermen under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

The following table is in the form prescribed for Annual Reports by the Ministry of Health :-

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Hors- es
Number killed	1,891	374	241	30,437	10,157	Nil
Number inspected	1,891	374	241	30,437	10,157	Nil
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT</u>						
<u>TUBERCULOSIS AND</u>						
<u>CYSTICERCI -</u>						
Whole Carcasses cond'd.	8	57	60	680	26	Nil
Carcase of which some part or organ condemned ...	580	167	1	1,519	116	Nil
% of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. & Cysticerci ...	31.0%	59.8%	25.3%	7.2%	1.3%	Nil
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY -</u>						
Whole Carcasses con- demned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	115	Nil
% of number inspected affected with T.B.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.1%	Nil
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS -</u>						
Carcase of which some part or organ con- demned ...	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrig- eration ...	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(2) FOOD PREMISES -

(a) The following is a list of Food Premises * in the Borough :-

Bread & Cakes	...	...	16
Cakes & Restaurants	...	...	19
Cooked Meats, etc.	...	...	3
Dairies	...	...	16
Fish (wet)	...	...	6
Fish & Chips	...	...	7
Fruit & Vegetables	...	...	25
Groceries & Provisions	...	...	64
Ice Cream	...	...	1
Meat	...	...	27
Mineral Water Factories	...	...	2
Public Houses & Hotels	...	...	40
Sweets & Confectionery	...	...	109
Wines & Spirits (Off-licences)	...	...	4
			<hr/>
			339
			<hr/>

* N.B. Where, as often applies, a Food Shop deals in more than one of the specified commodities, the premises have been classified according to the predominating type of business.

(b) 138 premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, viz : 49 for the Preparation of Processed Foods, and 89 for the Sale of Ice Cream.

(2) (c) Food Inspected and surrendered as unfit for human consumption was as follows :-

TINNED FOODS

			<u>tons</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>oz.</u>
Baby Foods (strained)	...	13 tin(s)					
Coffee	... ..	1 "					
Cream	... ..	18 "					
Fish	... ..	141 "					
Fruit	... ..	3,689 "					
Fruit Juice	... ..	103 "					
Fruit Pie Filling	... ..	59 "					
Golden Syrup	... ..	11 "					
Jams, Conserves	... ..	14 "					
Meat	... ..	721 "					
Milk	... ..	144 "	3	17	1	7	10 1/4
Milk Puddings	... ..	171 "					
Puddings (various)	... ..	14 "					
Sausages	... ..	21 "					
Soups	... ..	171 "					
Spaghetti	... ..	16 "					
Steak & Kidney Pies	... ..	19 "					
Stew (Irish)	... ..	33 "					
Sweet Corn	... ..	2 "					
Treacle	... ..	2 "					
Vegetables	... ..	638 "					
<u>TOTAL</u>	... ..	6,001 tins					

OTHER FOODS

Apple Sauce (24 jars)	... ..	...	-	-	-	6	12
Bicarbonate of Soda (8 packets)	... ..	...	-	-	-	2	0
Biscuits	... ..	...	-	-	-	7	10
Bovril (5 jars)	... ..	...	-	-	-	1	2
Breakfast Cereals (22 packets)	... ..	...	-	-	-	17	8
Cake Mix (2 packets)	... ..	...	-	-	-	1	0

(continued on Page 28 :-

<u>Other Foods</u> (cont'd. from P.27)				<u>tons</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>oz.</u>
Cereals	...	...	...	-	-	-	17	10
Cheese	...	...	...	-	-	1	22	0
Chicken Fillets (3 jars)	...	...	...	-	-	-	-	9
Chocolates, Sweets	...	...	...	-	-	-	4	12
Coconut (Desiccated)	...	...	...	-	-	-	1	0
Coffee (Instant) (69 jars)	...	...	...	-	-	-	23	14
Continental Sausage (various)	...	...	...	-	-	1	5	4
Cordial (2 bottles)	...	...	(Approx.)	-	-	-	3	0
Custard Powder	...	...	...	-	-	-	2	0
Faggots (6)	...	...	(Approx.)	-	-	-	1	2
Fish (wet)	...	...	...	-	2	0	0	0
Fruit (dried)	...	...	...	-	-	-	12	0
Fruit Jellies (5 jars)	...	...	...	-	-	-	1	4
Haricot Beans	...	...	...	-	-	-	2	8
Honey (18 jars)	...	...	...	-	-	-	14	0
Jams, Marmalade (116 jars)	...	...	...	-	1	0	1	0
Lentils, Split Peas	...	...	...	-	-	-	6	8
Marmite (2 jars)	...	...	...	-	-	-	-	8
Marzipan	...	...	...	-	-	-	-	8
Meat (excluding Slaughterhouse)	...	...	...	-	-	-	17	12
Meat (opened tins, etc.)	...	...	...	-	1	0	15	0
Meat Pie	...	...	...	-	-	-	16	8
Mincedmeat (2 jars)	...	...	...	-	-	-	1	12
Peaches (4 jars)	...	...	...	-	-	-	7	0
Peanut Butter	...	...	...	-	-	-	8	12
Pepper	...	...	...	-	-	-	-	2
Pickles (27 jars)	...	...	...	-	-	-	21	11
Potato Cakes (48)	...	...	(Approx.)	-	-	-	6	0
Potato (Dehydrated)	...	...	...	-	-	-	-	8
Rissoles (72)	...	...	(Approx.)	-	-	-	9	0
Ryvita	...	...	...	-	-	-	3	0
Salad Cream (16 jars)	...	...	...	-	-	-	4	9
Salt (59 packets or drums)	...	...	...	-	-	3	25	8
Sauce (31 bottles)	...	...	(Approx.)	-	-	-	15	8
Sausages	...	...	...	-	-	1	8	4
Soup (1 packet)	...	...	...	-	-	-	-	3
Suet (20 packets)	...	...	...	-	-	-	10	0

(continued :-

Other Foods (continued)

	<u>tons</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>oz.</u>
Tea	-	-	-	-	4
Vinegar (5 bottles) ... (Approx.)	-	-	-	6	4
	-	8	1	25	0
+ Tinned Foods (Page 27)	3	17	1	7	10%
<u>Total Foods Condemned</u> ...	4	5	3	4	10%

N.B. In addition to the above, also condemned were the total contents of two Frozen Food Cabinets, due to breakdown in refrigeration mechanism. Weight of these foods not ascertainable.

(3) ICE CREAM -

21 samples of Ice Cream were taken during the year for bacteriological examination, with the following results :-

PRODUCER	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	TOTAL
'A'	7	2	-	-	9
'B'	9	2	-	-	11
'C'	1	-	-	-	1
	17	4	-	-	21

4) MILK & DAIRIES -

The number of Producer-Retailers in the Borough is now 7, and from these, 11 samples of milk were submitted to the County Public Health Laboratory for the detection of Tuberculosis and Brucella Abortus. All were negative.

5) DISINFECTION -

Total disinfections : 7, viz. 7 Library Books (Infectious Diseases).

6) GENERAL DISINFESTATION -

24 premises were treated for pests, as follows :-

Ants	...	1
Cockroaches	...	3
Fleas	...	9
Flies	...	1
Wasps (nests)	...	10

Number of treatments at such premises :-

Ants	...	1
Cockroaches	...	16
Fleas	...	11
Flies	...	1
Wasps (nests)	...	12
		<hr/>
		41
		<hr/>

7) RODENT DISINFESTATION -

During the year, a treatment of disinfestation of the main sewers in parts of the Borough was carried out by a firm of Specialists in pest control. Apart from this, the part-time employment of a Pensioner was again considered to be sufficient to do disinfestation and other miscellaneous duties.

(8) SALVAGE -

The following materials were salvaged during refuse collection and disposal during the year 1966/67 :-

	<u>tons</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>
Light Iron Scrap (ex Refuse Tip)	15	12	3	0	15.	12.	9
Non-ferrous Metals	-	1	1	5	-	9.	2
Woollens	-	-	-	9	-	6.	0
Other Rags	3	10	0	16	40.	6.	2
Feathers	-	1	0	11	1.	5.	11
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
Total Sales ...	19	5	1	13	£ 58.	0.	0
	<hr/>				<hr/>		

(9) PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928 -

The following Storage Licences were granted under the above Act :-

Petroleum Spirit only	...	...	...	55
Petroleum Spirit & Petroleum Mixtures	...	...	...	7
Petroleum Mixtures only	...	...	...	6
Petroleum Mixtures & Carbide of Calcium ..	...	...	...	<u>1</u>
				69
				<hr/>

The quantities stored were as follows :-

Petroleum Spirit	...	...	...	218,050 gallons
Petroleum Mixtures	...	...	...	2,450 gallons
Carbide of Calcium	...	...	...	56 lbs.

The fees received by the Corporation in respect of such Licences was £57. 5. 0d.

(10) EXPLOSIVES ACTS, 1875 & 1923 -

The number of Premises Registered for the Storage of Mixed Explosives (fireworks, cartridges, etc.) was 36.

(11) FACTORIES ACT, 1961 -

The following tables show Inspections, etc. carried out during the year 1966 :-

(a) INSPECTIONS :

Premises	Number on Register	Inspect- ions	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosec ^d .
1. Factories in which S.1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	17	1	2	-
2. Factories not incl. in (1) in which S.7 is enforced by L.A.	142	97	-	-
3. Other Premises in which S.7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding Outworkers' Premises	21	1	1	-
TOTAL	181	99	3	-

(11) (b) CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions instit ^d .
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspect.	by H.M. Inspect.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	11	8	-	1	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):-					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	12	9	-	1	-

(11) (c) OUTWORK :

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Out-workers in Aug. list (S.133, (1)(c))	No. of cases of default in sending lists	No. of prosecutions for failure to send lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	59	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, Lace-curtains, Nets	10	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	69	-	-	-	-	-

(12) THE FOLLOWING IS A DETAILED LIST OF SANITARY OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR 1966 :-

Nature of Works Done	P.H. Acts	Hsng. Acts	F.&D. Act	Fact. Acts	O.S.& R.P. Act
New sets house drains laid	3	-	-	-	-
Drains repaired	37	-	-	-	-
Drains cleared	50	-	-	-	-
New vent pipes provided	6	-	-	1	-
Fresh air inlets provided	4	-	-	1	-

(continued :-

(12) DETAILS OF SANITARY OPERATIONS (continued)

Nature of Works Done	P.H. Acts	Hsng. Acts	F.&D. Act	Fact. Acts	O.S.& R.P. Act
New inspection chambers built	11	-	-	3	1
New interceptors fixed	1	-	-	-	-
New soil pipes fixed	-	-	-	1	-
New gullies fixed	6	-	-	1	-
New W.C. pans provided	5	-	-	3	1
Additional W.Cs. provided	-	-	-	-	4
W.Cs. repaired	-	-	-	-	3
New flushing cisterns provided	2	-	-	1	1
Walls repaired	1	1	-	-	-
Ceilings repaired	1	-	-	-	-
Doors repaired	1	-	-	-	-
Floors repaired or renewed	1	-	-	-	-
Yards repaired	1	-	-	-	-
Windows repaired	2	-	-	-	-
Roofs repaired or renewed	11	-	-	-	-
Rain pipes repaired	-	-	-	1	-
Guttering repaired or renewed	6	1	-	1	-
Plaster repaired - external	7	-	-	-	-
" " - internal	5	-	-	-	-
Dampness remedied	9	1	-	1	-
Lighting improved	-	-	-	1	8
Ventilation improved	2	-	-	-	3
Heating improved	-	-	-	-	6
Thermometer provided	-	-	-	-	18
First Aid Equipment provided	-	-	-	-	23
Washing facilities improved	-	-	-	1	27
Rooms cleansed	-	-	38	8	5
Food protected from contamination)	-	-	16	-	-
Bins provided	6	-	2	-	-
Offensive accumulations removed	2	-	-	-	-
Vermin and other pests eradicated)	24	-	-	-	-
Premises where nuisances abated	105	-	-	-	-

(continued :-

(12) DETAILS OF SANITARY OPERATIONS (continued from P.35)

Nature of Works Done	P.H. Acts	Hsng. Acts	F.&D. Act	Fact. Acts	O.S.& R.P. Act
Information for Employees) provided)	-	-	-	-	17
Means of Escape improved	-	-	-	-	3
Houses demolished	-	6	-	-	-
Houses closed	-	3	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	25	2

(13) SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, ETC. -

Total visits made	...	...	...	...	3,592
Inspections - Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	562
" - " " " (re-visits)	...	...	...	...	246
" - Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	15
" - " " (re-visits)	...	...	...	...	85
Visits to Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	1,329
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	44
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	73
Other Food Shops	...	...	...	...	231
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	22
Milk Vehicles (including sampling)	...	...	...	...	11
Dairies	...	...	...	...	10
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	24
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	3
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	...	173
Caravans	...	...	...	...	6
Factories	...	...	...	...	99
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	38
Refuse Tip	...	...	...	...	255
Petroleum Storage	...	...	...	...	30
Miscellaneous Letters written	...	...	...	...	62
Statutory Notices - Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	Nil
" " - Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	Nil
Informal Notices - Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	49
" " - P.H.A. (secondary)	...	...	...	...	34
Verbal Notices	...	...	...	...	154

